

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
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INFO USINT BAGHDAD
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USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 5965

E.O. 11652:GDS
TAGS: PINS, IR
SUBJ: DISSIDENT ACTIVITIES CONTINUE AT LOW LEVEL

REF: TEHRAN 5768

1. ONE GUARD WAS KILLED AND TWO OTHERS INJURED JUNE 18 WHEN, ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, A GROUP OF 15 MARKED STUDENTS ATTACKED THE SECURITY OFFICE AT FERDOWSI UNIVERSITY IN MASHAD. THE ATTACKERS REPORTEDLY FIRST SET FIRE TO THE UNIVERSITY GENERATOR AND THEN ATTACKED THE GUARD'S OFFICE WITH MOLOTOV COCKTAILS. THE ATTACKERS FLED THE SCENE AND NO ARRESTS WERE REPORTED. THIS INCIDENT WAS CITED TO THE CHARGE AT A GATHERING RECENTLY WITH THE IMPLICATION IT WAS EVIDENCE OF "AGENTS PROVOCATEURS" ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT. NO PROOF WAS GIVEN FOR THE ALLEGATION--A STANDARD ONE OVER PAST MONTHS IN DISSIDENT CIRCLES.

2. ISFAHAN CRIMINAL COURT BENCH TWO ON JUNE 18 HANDED DOWN FOUR MONTH PRISON SENTENCES TO FOUR STUDENTS FOR DESTROYING PUBLIC PROPERTY AND DISRUPTING LAW AND ORDER. ANOTHER SIX STUDENTS WHO WERE ALSO ACCUSED OF THE ABOVE CHARGES WERE
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ACQUITTED BY THE COURT ON GROUNDS OF INSUFFICIENT EVIDENCE. DURING THE FIVE DAY TRIAL FIVE HEARINGS WERE HELD AND JUDGES DELIBERATED TEN HOURS BEFORE ANNOUNCING VERDICT. THE FOUR CONVICTED STUDENTS HAVE APPEALED. MEANWHILE THE TRIAL OF ANOTHER FOUR STUDENTS ACCUSED OF DISRUPTING PUBLIC ORDER AND CAUSING PROPERTY DAMAGE DURING A DEMONSTRATION AT ISFAHAN UNIVERSITY (REFTEL) BEGAN JUNE 18 AT ISFAHAN

CRIMINAL COURT BENCH ONE. SIX OF THE ORIGINAL GROUP OF TEN WERE RELEASED FOR LACK OF EVIDENCE.

3. IN OTHER STUDENT ACTION A GROUP OF 700 TEHRAN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS HAVE FILED A COMPLAINT AGAINST CHANCELLOR GHASSEM MOTAMEDI FOR TEMPERING WITH THEIR EXAMINATION GRADES. ACCORDING TO THE STUDENTS LAWYERS, THEY ARE OBJECTING TO FAILING GRADES BEING GIVEN WITHOUT THEIR KNOWLEDGE OR APPROVAL OF THEIR TEACHERS. (FYI: MOTAMEDI HAS ALSO FIGURED PROMINENTLY IN THE NEW LATELY AS ONE OF THE LEADERS OF THE PROGRESSIVE WING OF THE RESURGENCE PARTY.) THE EMBASSY HAS LEARNED (THOUGH IT WAS NOT IN THE PRESS) THAT SOME TEACHERS HAVE ASSOCIATED THEMSELVES WITH THE STUDENTS COMPLAINT AND ARE ALSO SUING MOTAMEDI ON CHARGES OF FRAUD.

4. COMMENT: LIBERALIZATION, AND ITS ATTENDANT DISORDERS, CONTINUE , THOUGH CLEARLY AT A SLOWER PACE AS WE ENTER THE SUMMER MONTHS.
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